



# Failure Double-Down

May 22, 2022

The Pursuit • 1 Samuel 28, 31 • Message 15

REVIEW • I USUALLY WIN WHEN IT COMES TO \_\_\_\_? • 1 SAMUEL 13:14 • BE AFTER, TAKE AFTER

When confronted with a failure,  
turn toward God and embrace service.

TODAY, WE WILL LEARN THE SAME LESSON, BUT FIRST, WE NEED TO SEE SAUL'S TRAGIC DECLINE

## Saul's Failure Double-Down

Failure #1 — Saul failed to **SEEK GOD**.

1-7 • ENDOR • SOME QUESTIONS • WHY IS GOD SILENT? • OTHERS FIRST

QUESTION: How does God speak?

**DREAMS** • Urim (**PRIESTS**) • **PROPHETS**VISIONS / ANGELS / THEOPHANY (BURNING BUSH)  
GP: DO YOU EVER BLAME GOD FOR HIS SILENCE?

QUESTION: How did Saul inquire?

NO PROPHET BUT GAD (WITH DAVID) • NO PRIESTS BUT ABIATHAR (WITH DAVID) • NO REST / HARP, DAVID  
1 CHRONICLES 10:13-14 • CONSIDER HIS OPTIONS: MAKE PEACE WITH DAVID!!!

QUESTION: Why is God silent?

• Because we failed to honestly **SEEK** him.• Because we have broken **RELATIONSHIPS**.• Because God knows we **WON'T LISTEN**.

DON'T BLAME GOD WHEN HE'S SILENT OR YOU MISUNDERSTAND HIS WILL.

Failure #2 — Saul exploited a medium.

8-11 • 12-14

ASIDE: Dead people are still living!

LUKE 23:43 • LUKE 16:22-23 • LUKE 20:38 • MARK 9:3-4

ASIDE: Mediums and spiritists are fake.

SHE WAS SURPRISED TO SEE SAMUEL! • SURPRISED THAT THIS THING WORKED!

ASIDE: God can use donkeys.

SAUL DOESN'T SEE SAMUEL • GOD CAN USE DONKEYS • THIS LADY IS ACTUALLY HONORABLE!  
15-20 • HE ONLY CARES ABOUT HIMSELF, AND CAN'T DO THAT RIGHT. • 21-25

Failure #3 — Saul exploited the people around him.

1 SAMUEL 31:1-4 • TORTURE? NO / THE SOLDIERS, THE ARMOR-BEARER

HE KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN AND HE COULD HAVE SPARED THEM • SURRENDER? REPENT? • 5-10

Saul's One Success

1 SAMUEL 31:11-13 • 1 SAMUEL 11:5-6, 9, 12-14

## Take It Home

**SEEK** God, **SERVE** others,  
and **TRUST** God for the victory.



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